

Spotlight on Darlington . . .

The origin of the name of this county is uncertain, but it may have been named for Darlington, England. The county was formed in 1785, with the county seat at Darlington. This area was settled in the mid-eighteenth century by Welsh, Scotch-Irish, and English farmers, who primarily grew cotton. In recent years, the county has been known for stock car racing, which takes place at the Darlington Raceway. David Rogerson Williams (1776-1830), governor and scientific experimenter, was a native of Darlington; he is remembered for introducing the mule to Southern agriculture. Other prominent Darlington residents were industrialists James Lide Coker (1837-1918) and David R. Coker (1870-1938) and novelists Annie Greene Nelson (1902-1993) and Elizabeth Boatwright Coker (1909-1993).

Hartsville Workforce Center

1319 South Fourth Street, P O Drawer 1170
Hartsville, SC 29551
(843) 332-1554 / FAX: (843) 332-9043

Location & Climate

- Located in the northeastern area of the state
- Surrounded by Chesterfield, Marlboro, Florence, Lee, and Kershaw counties
- This region has an average temperature of 62.9 degrees with an annual average rainfall of 47.1 inches.

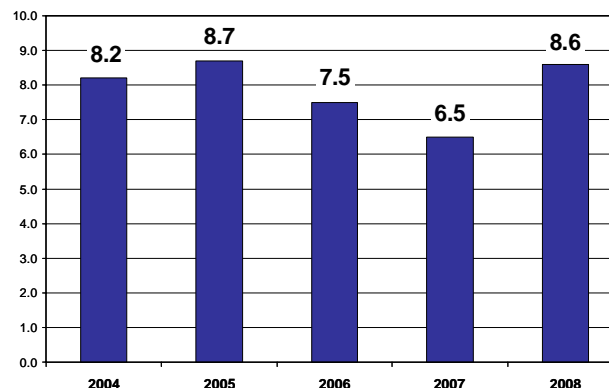
Population

- Was 66,810 in 2007
- Estimated growth to 68,940 by 2015
- 2007 data was comprised of 56.7 White, 42.2% African-American, and 1.0% Other
- The Hispanic-Latino population increased from 658 in 2000 to 883 in 2007, an 34.2% change.

Labor Force

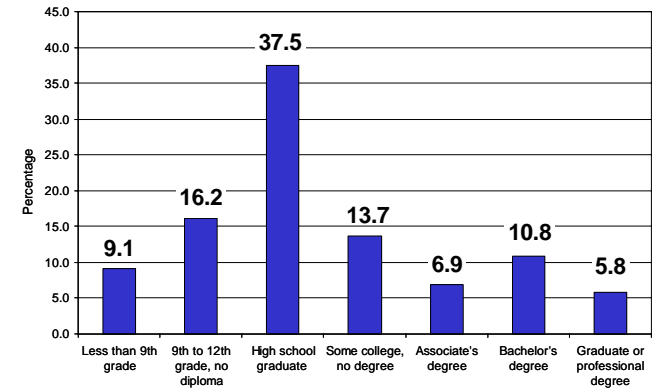
- Increased from 30,690 in 2007 to 31,490 in 2008
- Employment rose from 28,700 in 2007 to 28,760 in 2008.
- Unemployment rate climbed from 6.5% in 2007 to 8.6% in 2008.

**Unemployment Rates for Darlington County
2004 - 2008**



Educational Attainment

Darlington County 2007



Per Capita Income

- County per capita income was \$28,500 for 2007.
- This was 92% of the state's per capita income of \$31,100.
- This was 74% of the national per capita income of \$38,620.

Unemployment Insurance Benefits

The Hartsville Workforce Center, which serves Darlington County, paid \$8,644,799 in regular unemployment insurance benefits during 2008.



SC Employment Security Commission Labor Market Information

P O Box 995
Columbia, SC 29202
(803) 737-2660 / FAX: (803) 737-2838
(800) 205-9290 (outside the Columbia area)

<http://www.sces.org/lmi>